



Blake Trask, Chair
Max Hepp-Buchanan, Vice Chair
Ann Boyd
Allegra Calder
Jodi Connolly
Matthew Crane
Sean Cryan
Gabe Grijalva
Kelsey Jones-Casey
Neal Komedal
Anna Telensky
Jean White

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date/Time: June 1, 2011 / 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
Chair: Blake Trask
Vice Chair: Max Hepp-Buchanan
Recorder: Ann Boyd
Location: Seattle City Hall, L280

Minutes Distribution List:

See Attachment A

Members Present:

Ann Boyd; Allegra Calder; Matthew Crane; Sean Cryan; Kelsey Jones-Casey; Neal Komedal; Jean White; Max Hepp-Buchanan (Vice Chair); Anna Telensky

Members Absent:

Blake Trask (Chair); Jodi Connolly; Gabe Grijalva

Guests:

Steve Pearce, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT); Hannah McIntosh, SDOT; Jennifer Wieland, SDOT; Tony Mazzella, SDOT; Brian Dougherty, SDOT; Doug Cox, SDOT; Michael Snyder, Cascade Bicycle Club Board of Directors; Tom Fucoloro, Seattle Bike Blog; Liz Nixon, Bike Works; Devon Barton, Seattle Pedestrian Advisory Board; Aili LePard, West Seattle

MEETING CALL TO ORDER

- Meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. by Max Hepp-Buchanan.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Comments by members of the public:
 - Michael Snyder from Cascade Bicycle Club Board of Directors stated that this year's Bike to Work Month recorded the highest number of cyclists and miles ridden ever.

PRESENTATIONS

Time: 6:02 p.m.

Topic: S Columbian Way Rechannelization

Presenters: Brian Dougherty, SDOT

Purpose: Update on results of the rechannelization of S Columbian Way as well as planned continuation to Columbia City.

Findings / Critical Points:

The Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board shall advise the City Council, the Mayor, and all departments and offices of the city on matters related to bicycling, and the impacts which actions by the city may have upon bicycling; and shall have opportunity to contribute to all aspects of the city's planning processes insofar as they relate to bicycling.

-City Council
Resolution 25534

- S Columbian Way from 15th Ave S to Beacon Ave S was repaved in 2010 to include two travel lanes, one turning lane, and bike lanes.
- Complete Streets project included sidewalk and road improvements, street trees.
- During the short study period after the repaving:
 - Traffic volumes are up
 - Collisions are unchanged
 - Top end speeders (40+ mph) are down
- Next steps:
 - Connect bike network between Columbia City and Beacon Hill
 - Add light rail access, improve safety at pedestrian crossings, and reduce speed
 - Extend rechannelization and bike lanes
- Section between Columbia City and Beacon Hill:
 - 87 percent of speeds are above the limit (30 mph)
 - 17 percent of speeds are over 40 mph
 - Traffic volume is 12,000 vehicles, which is less than the section at the top of the hill
 - 43 percent of collisions are injury collisions
 - There will be no impact on traffic signals, e.g. no additional delay

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- Q: Will there be changes to the sidewalks?
A: No.
- Q: How will speeds be reduced?
A: Channelization naturally reduces speeds because if one person drives the speed limit, everyone behind them must as well.
- Q: What is the funding for this project?
A: Bridging the Gap, outlined in Bicycle Master Plan.
- Q: How will access to light rail improve?
A: On street facilities for bicycles, pedestrian crossings at Columbian Way.

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB recommends that SDOT move forward with the rechannelizations of S Columbian Way.

Action Item or Follow-Up:

- Brian Dougherty will send PowerPoint presentation to SBAB Vice Chair.

Time: 6:18 p.m.

Topic: Central Waterfront Update

Presenter: Steve Pearce and Hannah McIntosh, SDOT

Purpose: Briefing on the waterfront background and early design.

Findings / Critical Points:

- Public event on May 19th. Presentation and survey on website (WaterfrontSeattle.org).
- Project areas:
 - Core project – Depends on the viaduct removal
 - Framework plan elements – Potential, may be on a different schedule
- Goal: Connect the waterfront to the city, create a waterfront for all.
- Schedule: Construction begins after viaduct is removed in 2016.

- Central Waterfront Committee made up of 38 members, tasked with oversight of funding, operations, and maintenance.
- Framework plan: Plan for connections, access, art. Complete by mid-2012.
- Conceptual design: Will run in parallel to the framework plan. 10 percent will be done by mid-2012.
- Waterfront Seattle received 2,000 unique pieces of public input. There was consensus on valuing views, water access, parks, and open space. Consensus against blocking views, creating wide roadways, and catering specifically to tourists.
- Preliminary design based on 3 scales:
 - City scale: Goal is to re-center the city around Elliott Bay. Connect areas of the city to the bay.
 - Urban framework scale: Connecting the city to the waterfront
 - Waterfront scale: There are a variety of waterfront neighborhoods looking for strong east-west connections
- Multi-modal access strategy:
 - Get people there (waterfront is a destination)
 - Get people through
 - Includes transit, parking, bicycle, and pedestrian
 - Small vehicles (jitneys) for moving people on Alaskan Way
 - Connection to 1st and 3rd transit corridors
 - Bike path which separates bikes from both pedestrians and vehicle traffic
- Next design mileposts: Fall 2011; Feb/Mar 2012.

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- Q: What about the BNSF railroad south of Royal Brougham?
A: It will remain.
- Q: What about bringing bikes on mechanical transports?
A: Yes on the vernaculars; maybe on the escalators.
- Q: What will the speeds be on Alaskan Way?
A: Same as city streets. Signals will fit 30 mph traffic and not make pedestrians wait.
- Q: What about left-turning bicycles crossing four lanes of traffic on Alaskan Way?
A: Needs more design.

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB is supportive of a high-capacity, dedicated bicycle facility on the west side of Alaskan Way.
- East-west bicycle connections are as important as north-south.
- Bicycle access on the hill climbs, landforms, and other destination and access points are important. Surfaces need to be conducive to bicycle travel.
- There are possibly other north-south connections worth considering, such as 1st Ave.

Action Item or Follow-Up:

- Waterfront Seattle will return late in the fall of 2011 to give another update.
- Follow the project on the website – WaterfrontSeattle.org.

Time: 7:15 p.m.

Topic: Transit Master Plan (TMP) Update

Presenter: Jennifer Wieland and Tony Mazzella, SDOT

Purpose: Brief SBAB on the planning for the Seattle TMP update

Findings / Critical Points:

- Draft plan will be done September 2011.
- Goals:
 - Increase ridership
 - Serve vulnerable populations
 - Sustainability
 - Create great places where modes connect
- The first transit plan was in 2005. This is the first update.
- Outreach is through a Public Advisory Committee, stakeholder interviews, and web survey which received 12,000 responses.
- There are 10,000 bikes on the bus racks every day.
- Stage 1: Identified 15 priority corridors.
- Stage 2: Will prioritize the corridors.
- Website: <http://www.seattle.gov/transportation/transitmasterplan>

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- Q: What is the intention of increasing bicycle trips?
A: Bicycle connections create transit trips.

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB recommends looking at the interaction between bicycles and transit in infrastructure planning and creation of transit policy.

Action Item or Follow-Up:

- SDOT will return late summer/early fall 2011 to update the SBAB on progress of Stage 2 of the TMP.
- PowerPoint presentation will be sent to SBAB.

Time: 7:55 p.m.

Topic: SDOT Update

Presenter: Doug Cox, SDOT

Purpose: Update on recent SDOT activities

SBAB Comments/Questions:

- The construction detour for the Airport Way S viaduct onto 1st Ave S is hazardous and under water in places.

SBAB Recommendations:

- SBAB should continue to consider 4th Ave S as a viable detour while the Airport Way S viaduct is under construction.

Time: 8:00 p.m.

Topic: Closing Thoughts and Next Steps

Purpose: Update on SBAB activities

- West Seattle Triangle meeting has not been scheduled. Matthew is working on it.
- SW Alaska rechannelization:
 - Jodi met with SDOT
 - Businesses are pushing back on the loss of parking. SDOT is doing further study.
- Seattle Public Utilities (SPU):
 - Blake and Jean met regarding synergies between Greenways and Natural Drainage projects. There is interest at SPU in continuing the conversation.
 - Meeting June 8th on Restore Our Waters.
- ALTA Planning is coming out with a best practices guide on neighborhood greenways.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

- Max Hepp-Buchanan adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

ATTACHMENT A

June Meeting Minutes Distribution List:

Michael McGinn, Mayor, City of Seattle

Rebecca Deehr, Strategic Advisor for Policy and Outreach, Office of the Mayor

City Councilmember Tom Rasmussen, Transportation Committee Chair

Peter Hahn, Director, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT)

Sam Woods, Manager, Bicycle, Pedestrian & Neighborhood Program & Project Development, SDOT

Diane Sugimura, Director, Department of Planning and Development (DPD)

Bernie Agor Matsuno, Interim Director, Department of Neighborhoods (DoN)

Doug Cox, Assistant Transportation Planner, SDOT Liaison

Eric Widstrand, Traffic Operations Manager, SDOT

Meeting Presenters: Brian Dougherty, SDOT; Steve Pearce, SDOT; Hannah McIntosh, SDOT;

Jennifer Wieland, SDOT; Tony Mazzella, SDOT;

City of Seattle Council Transportation Committee Members

City of Seattle Neighborhood District Coordinators

Seattle Bicycle Advisory Board (SBAB) Board Members

Individual Meeting Attendees